

Household Appliances. The Consumer Electronics Manufacturers Association (CEMA) states that the vast majority of consumer electronic products are Y2K-safe. Only a few products may be affected, for example, older VCRs or coffee makers with digital clock timers with a date field. Questions should be referred to the manufacturers.

Household Insurance Coverage for Y2K-caused Problems. Homeowner incidents caused by Y2K-related events should be reimbursed. However, certain problems, such as sewer backup, may require a separate rider, so it is best to check your policy and to contact your insurance company for specific questions.



Personal Computers. Apple Macintosh systems are Y2K compatible. Non-Apple computers built after 1997 should not have Y2K hardware problems. For both hardware and software, check manufacturers' web sites or contact them directly. Many manufacturers' and other Y2K sites offer freeware to resolve Y2K difficulties.

Computer Viruses — Due to the threat of viruses which may execute at midnight, New Year's Eve, and to lessen the chances for Y2K



effects, consider turning off your computer before midnight and re-starting it after January 1. The use of virus protection software on personal computers is always a prudent practice.

Home Medical Equipment. If your equipment is leased, call the leasing company. If your equipment is purchased, check for a 1-800 number listed on the equipment and call for information, or check manufacturer's website. If unsuccessful, check the Food and Drug Administration's site (www.fda.gov).

Prescription Drugs. Most pharmaceutical firms have completed upgrading their internal systems. The industry is well organized to function under adverse conditions such as natural disasters or epidemics. Check with local pharmacists about Y2K readiness and contingency plans, and ensure supplies in your hands will last for a week into the new year.

Y2K is an inconvenience, not a catastrophe:
— The Honorable Richard Danzig
Secretary of the Navy
February 10, 1999

Other Safety Measures. The following steps have been recommended by the American Red Cross: ■ Do not use gas-fueled appliances, grills or camp heating devices indoors for heat unless listed with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) for indoor use. Have plenty of flashlights and extra batteries on hand. Do not use candles for emergency lighting. ■ Battery-operated smoke alarms: ensure batteries are fresh. ■ Hard-wired smoke alarms: inspect to see if they have battery backup. If so, ensure batteries are fresh. If not, be sure to install batteries. ■ If you have a battery-operated radio on hand for emergency notifications. ■ If using a portable generator, connect to devices directly, not to home's electrical system. ■ If you live in a cold climate, have additional clothing and blankets available should your heat go out.

Once again, take appropriate precautions, don't forget to check on your friends and neighbors and the elderly — and have a Happy New Year!

ADDITIONAL Y2K RESOURCES

► www.doncio.navy.mil (Go to Y2K)

► www.cnoy2k.navy.mil/ny2k

► www.usmc.mil (Go to Special News—Y2K)

► www.defenselink.mil (Go to Sites of Interest—Y2K)

► President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion Y2K web site: www.y2k.gov

► Federal Year 2000 Information Center toll-free Y2K hotline: 1-888-872-4925

► www.redcross.org (Go to Y2K)



Published by
Department of the Navy
Chief Information Officer

1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC
20350-1000
www.doncio.navy.mil

Official U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Photos

